

POM-16. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of North Dakota urging the United States Congress to temporarily amend cargo carrying truck length and weight restrictions on state highways and interstates that are a part of the National Network to allow North Dakota and surrounding states to conduct a road train pilot program and to permanently amend the restrictions to allow road trains and the national network highways and interstates if the pilot program is successful; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3001

Whereas, the National Network is an approved network of state highways and interstates in the United States for use by large trucks and commercial truck drivers; and

Whereas, the National Network supports interstate commerce by regulating the size of trucks operating on the National Network through a federal cargo carrying length limitation of approximately 100 feet depending on truck configuration and a federal cargo carrying weight limitation of approximately 80,000 pounds gross vehicle weight; and

Whereas, grandfathered provisions in operation in the state at the time federal regulations were enacted provide trucks in North Dakota may be up to 110 feet in overall length and 105,500 pounds gross vehicle weight on permissible routes; and

Whereas, trucks operating on the 129,000 pound Limited Transportation Network may be up to 129,000 pounds gross vehicle weight on certain routes; and

Whereas, the United States is experiencing a shortage of approximately 900,000 truck drivers with commercial driver's licenses; and

Whereas, railroad infrastructure has diminished by approximately 40 percent between 1920 and 2017, from 5,400 miles of track to 3,330 miles of track; and

Whereas, it is becoming more difficult to meet increasing demands for freight and commodities in a timely and efficient manner due, in part, to the shortage of commercial truck drivers and the reduced railroad infrastructure; and

Whereas, a road train is a trucking vehicle consisting of two or more connected trailers or semitrailers linked and hauled by a single operating prime mover or tractor unit which may exceed overall length and total gross vehicle weight limitations, but not exceed current statutory axle load limitations; and

Whereas, Australia uses road trains to move freight in an efficient manner to meet demand; and

WHEREAS, allowing road trains to exceed federal truck length and total gross vehicle weight limitations may be a viable solution to the efficiency and capacity issues resulting from the shortage of commercial truck drivers and reduced railroad infrastructure by allowing commercial truck drivers to haul more freight in longer and heavier cargo loads: Now, therefore, be it

*RESOLVED by the house of representatives of North Dakota, the Senate concurring therein:*

That the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to temporarily amend cargo carrying truck length and weight restrictions on state highways and interstates that are a part of the National Network to allow North Dakota and surrounding states to conduct a road train pilot program and to permanently amend the restrictions to allow road trains on the National Network highways and interstates if the pilot program is successful; and be it further *Resolved*,

That the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States

Senate, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1260. A bill to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes.

### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MANCHIN for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

\*Tommy P. Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Todd Sunhwa Kim, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 1603. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 1604. A bill to codify the successes of rapid development of safe vaccines through Operation Warp Speed, for the next administration to use as a guide in the event of another pandemic; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 1605. A bill to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue in Orlando, Florida, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROMNEY:

S. 1606. A bill to designate as wilderness certain National Forest System land in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1607. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve how the Department of Veterans Affairs discloses to individuals entitled to educational assistance from

the Department risks associated with using such assistance at particular educational institutions and to restore entitlement of students to such assistance who are pursuing programs of education at educational institutions that are subject to Federal or State civil enforcement action, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1608. A bill to support the sustainable aviation fuel market, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1609. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that electrochromic glass qualifies as energy property for purposes of the energy credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1610. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LUJAN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1611. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the responses of the Department of Defense to sex-related offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. KING, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1612. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to assist States to rehabilitate or replace certain bridges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1613. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a grant program for certain fitness facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1614. A bill to require certain grantees under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to submit a plan to track discriminatory land use policies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 1615. A bill to limit the scope of regulations issued by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to control communicable diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BARRASSO:

S. 1616. A bill to provide exceptions from permitting and fee requirements for content creation, regardless of distribution platform, including digital or analog video and digital or analog audio recording activities, conducted on land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1617. A bill to modify the requirements for the Administrator of the Small Business Administration relating to declaring a disaster in a rural area, and for other purposes;